

Neighboring universities face similar problems

By Eric Peterson

Student lobbying organizations in neighboring states are facing many of the same problems that UNL and the Nebraska State Student Association are.

Kurt Keppler, program director of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri, said cuts in financial aid for students and low appropriations for Missouri's state university system are his group's main concerns. "We'll obviously be very much affected (by the financial aid cuts)," Keppler said. "We have several people working in Jefferson City on financial aid."

Keppler said ASUM has conducted letter-writing campaigns, and sent several representatives to Washington, D.C. for the U. S. Student Association lobbying conference Feb. 26 through 28.

Kepler said state appropriations for the university system traditionally have been small in Missouri.

"We've been cut in the past two years," he said. A budget increase this year is designed to make up for the past budget cuts, but still won't keep pace with inflation, he said.

A major ASUM activity is offering a political science internship program about student issues, Keppler said. Interns get college credit for researching and testifying about student political issues as registered lobbyists. The ASUM board of directors has conducted student surveys in the past to determine priority issues, Keppler said.

He said aid cuts may have a good effect on student involvement in Missouri.

"I think it's really a good thing that students are finally realizing that they can help. People who are usually caught up with grades or whatever are beginning to realize that all this affects them, and they're doing something about it," he said.

Kepler said a state advisory board composed of legislators and administrators was recently formed to help student lobbyists with techniques and advice to be more effective.

The university system is somewhat better-off in Kansas, according to Mark Tallman, executive director of the Associated Students of Kansas. ASK lobbies for seven Kansas schools.

A columnist at the University of Kansas newspaper recently said ASK is too general, and has too many issues to be effective, but Tallman said ASK focuses on student budget issues.

"I would say we keep our agenda relatively narrow. We always make a practice of prioritizing certain issues," he said.

Tallman said ASK was formed in the early 1970s, and has been consistently effective.

"Year by year, we've supported higher education in the state," he said. "Kansas has a pretty good record in supporting higher education."

ASK has helped to keep student wage increases in pace with inflation, obtained state funding for the student unions in Kansas and worked for tenant-landlord laws, Tallman said.

He said the federal budget cuts may be made up for by increased state funding in Kansas. Tallman said the Kansas Legislature is considering several tax increase measures to take up the slack of federal funding.

Politics topic in Taft course

Nebraska teachers and politicians will participate in a study program of American government and two-party politics during the eighth annual Taft Seminar for Teachers June 7 through 18 at UNL.

UNL has been selected as one of 23 sponsors of the Taft seminars nationwide.

The seminars, the principal endeavor of the Robert A. Taft Institute of Government, are designed to broaden understanding and improve teaching of the American system of government and its two-party political system. Elementary and secondary school teachers and practicing politicians will participate in the study course.

Senate forms Student Foundation

By Betsy Miller

The ASUN Senate established Wednesday a Student Foundation to work with the NU Foundation as a fund-raising organization. The meeting was held in the UNL Culture Center.

However, Dan Wedekind, ASUN first vice president, said the Student Foundation will be able to make decisions independently of the NU Foundation.

Wedekind and five other ASUN members formulated a set of guidelines for the new foundation.

The Student Foundation Board will consist of 10 members. One student will represent the colleges of Criminal Justice, Arts and Sciences, Nursing and the School of Journalism; one will represent Architecture, Engineering and Business Administration colleges; one will represent the Teachers, Graduate and professional colleges; one will represent the colleges of Home Economics and Agriculture; four will be members at large; one member will represent the faculty and one will represent the NU Foundation.

The faculty and NU Foundation members will not have a vote on the board.

Wedekind said the student foundation will also initiate its own projects.

It will also serve as a liaison between the student body and the NU Foundation and provide student input to UNL's chancellor for his use in deciding allocation of discretionary funds, the foundation guidelines read.

Original board members will be selected by members of the ASUN Committee on the Student Foundation, two representatives of ASUN and one member of the NU Foundation.

Any UNL student that has at least a 2.0 grade point average and is enrolled in at least six credit hours is eligible for the board.

In other action, the senate voted to change the number of non-voting members on the Committee for Fees Allocation from three to six.

The three new members will be student representatives from the Nebraska Unions, Health Center and Recreation student advisory boards.

The unions, Health Center and Recreation Department are Fund B users and their representation is needed on CFA to improve communications with CFA, said Sen. Teresa Zeilinger.

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Shorts

The Christian Science Organization will meet today at 6 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Room will be posted.

The International Folk Dancers will sponsor dancing Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Mabel Lee Hall basement dance room.

Students considering internships in their home towns for the summer should contact the Experiential Education Office, Oldfather Hall 1218. Phone 472-1452 by March 15.

Lincoln Right to Life will meet tonight at 7:30 at Christ Lutheran Church, 43rd and Sumner streets.

The opening of the renovated Temple Theater Complex will be marked with a week-long celebration of art, theater and scholarship recognizing the era of early modern theater. Cultural events will culminate in a symposium of Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen and the production of his masterpiece, *Hedda Gabler*, which will be performed by University Theatre March 4 through 6 and 8 through 12 at 8 p.m. in Howell Theater.